



... ended up like this on the road to "Old Smokie"

Ranch, Junction City, Weaverville then Hwy3 north alongside Trinity Lake-more hills, twisty-bendy roads and glorious views. Stopping for photos and coffee along the way. We stayed overnight at Weaverville. The evening meal was at a strangely "Victorian" themed restaurant.

One thing you notice about the homes/small holdings out of the towns, is the amount of "Dead" cars/vans/trucks that there are. Just parked up in a row in a corner, in order of their demise! Stuff from the 50's to date awaiting the scrap yard in the sky. All this amidst the most beautiful scenery, strange.

Saturday morning saw us heading out of Weaverville on Hwy 3 towards Lewiston and breakfast, the town was having a vintage car rally and was a bit full!

We met up with about ten Harley Owners

Group members going on a Poker Run, got chatting to them but didn't join them as they were going in the opposite direction. We got directions towards the Lewiston Lake and Trinity Dam and back to Hwy 3 towards Yreka via the Trinity Heritage Byway from a waitress in the diner we stopped at for breakfast.

The road climbed up the mountains and back down – all trees and creeks, rocks, stunning views, blue skies and 'BLOODY GREAT DEER!' (Iain) One trundled out in front of us, after this we got wise to keeping more of an eye out for 'em as they'd do a bit of damage if you hit one! The road then opens up and with snow topped mountains as a backdrop, arriving at Yreka in the early evening. A good day indeed.

We set off at 8.30am from Yreka heading north on Hwy263 then 15 north, then Hwy 66 east towards Emigrant Lake and Pinehurst. We rode on towards Klamath Falls. The Hwy 66

RideWithUs

...organised motorcycle holidays

2006 Tours

- Spanish Pyrenees
- Austria & Black Forest
- Champagne Tour
- Prague & Brno MotoGP
- Slovenia & Croatia
- Champagne Tour
- Grand Alps - France
- South of France

Tel:01582 840621 e-mail:sales@ridewithus.info

www.ridewithus.info

is another amazingly steep and climb up mountains like Parker and Hayden Mountain who's summits are 4356 and 4695 respectively.

We headed towards Crater Lake at around 2pm. Stopped to take some photos on the approach road when snow began to fall a fair bit. We decided that, as it was a bit cold and we were both a bit tired that we'd go find somewhere to stop and return the next morning.

Well the next morning it was all like Christmas! Snowballs and all! Excellent fun. We went up as far as we felt comfortable on a bike that's not ours and then came back down as the cars coming towards us had a lot of snow on top!

We headed towards Bend again deciding to dump some stuff off at the hotel where our suitcase was, we had gotten so cold, that we decided to stay the night and thaw out. The

next morning we headed out towards Redmond then on Hwy 126 towards Prineville and John Day. We stopped for a drink at an old store in Dayville and the owner told us of the route we took that day and it was brilliant. We went back to the Hwy 19 and then the 26 towards Kimberly, Monument, Hamilton and Long Creek. The most memorable hills and mountains were to be found along this route. It is so beautiful and hardly any other traffic.

Wednesday and we were on the road by 8.30am on Hwy 395 south towards Mount Vernon, John Day, Prairie City. Then Hwy26 north towards Baker City then the 30 towards Haines then the 237 Union, Cove and the 82 towards Elgin, the 204 towards Weston. Then the 11 towards Milton Freewater and Walla Walla (as it was Washington State, so as to get another one in).

We then came back south and overnighted in Pendleton at "The Rugged Country Lodge" on the main street of Pendleton. Here the Manageress, Cheryl asked if she had been told correctly that the bike had been a prize from the BBC and that we were in the US for a year! We put her right on the details of our win, apparently a chap we'd told this to had got a bit mixed up!

She even phoned the local news TV channel to get us and the hotel featured, but they were already out. It's a very good place to stay and friendly staff too. Recommended.

Discover the heart of Central Europe by Bike
Flyride to the Bavarian Forest



Escorted Motorbike Tours in Germany, Austria and Czech Republic

www.bikebavaria.com

BikeBavaria 0049 9922 502534

Draggin Jeans...enhancing the pleasure and safety of motorcycling.



NEW DRAGGIN' Kevlar® UNOBTAANIUM NOW 70% STRONGER

www.dragginjeans.co.uk FREEPHONE: 0800 0859 020 Email: info@dragginjeans.co.uk

- Kevlar® lined jeans, jackets, cargo pants & more.
- Fully breathable, pre shrunk and machine washable
- Specifically designed for motorcyclists comfort & style

NEW PRODUCTS AVAILABLE

Draggin Traffic Jeans, Ultra Violet Camos, Ladies Moto Jacket, Draggin Urban Camo Jacket, Draggin Kids Jeans & Draggin Black Stretch Jeans

Thursday and we set off in beautiful warm sunshine, on the 395/74 towards Heppner.

This town was nearly swept away by a flood in 1903 and there is a museum displaying local history and a menagerie of some odd looking stuffed animals! We spotted a 'Ghost Town' on the map on the 207 out of Heppner called Haardman so off we set thinking thoughts of old westerns and the like. Hmm, a bit of a swiz actually. There were derelict old wooden houses, but some were being lived in with occupants that waved at us in a friendly manner. We kept going towards Spray on the 207 then we back tracked towards Dayville etc. and overnighted at Mount Vernon.

Went to the "Wheel Bar" and had the biggest skip-full of Nachos known to man, plus a few beers of course. Oh and met three Canadians who were also on bikes and at the same motel doing the same as us, just riding their bikes where the fancy took them. We sat and chatted about where we'd all been/going. Bikers the world over, no matter what they ride all have that common bond. You feel like one big family, corny I know but true. It's always fun to try and match up the rider to their bike, and in the morning we'd got it wrong! The shortest was on the biggest bike out of the three.

At Mount Vernon there is a Diner aptly named 'Dixie's' that does the most enormous breakfast you could ever think of, well worth a mention too. Just don't expect to eat again till the evening!

Friday and we set off at about 10.30am and went back via John Day Fossil beds etc. all beautiful countryside and hills. This place is amazing and will stay in our minds for a long time. We stopped at Mitchell for some coffee and met a chap who has a 7foot brown bear called Henry, we declined the invite to meet Henry as we didn't want to become a snack!

We took our time with a nice steady ride back to Bend, to the Phoenix Inn Suites and booked in. We were both quite tired but had enjoyed the chance to see a small part of the US, meet real local people and get to talk, spend time and laugh with them. We were made to feel welcome everywhere we went and people always have time for you. We would definitely go again, and hope to sooner rather than later.

The Saturday at Bend was a day for present shopping and winding down. We went to the Bears & Roses Harley Davidson dealership at Bend, and got a few more bits for Annie's Harley. Yet more friendly people to meet.

Then hit Bend and all it's gift shops etc. plenty of variety, and hopefully happy recipients!

On Sunday morning we handed the bike back to the ever-flamboyant Scott. Who arrived with another bike for a couple who were just about to begin their adventure. And so our taxi arrived and took us to the airport, and home. If you only ever get one chance to do something like this, then grab it with both hands. In a word EXCELLENT!